

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, AS

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF TECHNICAL ASSIGNMENT OF HANS J.
MILTON

1. NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REQUESTS THAT THE FOLLOWING
LETTER BE DELIVERED TO THE ADDRESSEE:

HONORABLE ROBERT B. LANSDOWN
SECRETARY
AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
BOX 1890, G.P.O.
CANBERRA CITY A.C.T. 2601
AUSTRALIA

2. "DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

3. "THE EMBASSY OF AUSTRALIA IN WASHINGTON, D.C. HAS
ADVISED THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS THAT YOU HAVE
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APPROVED THE TWO-MONTH EXTENSION OF THE TECHNICAL CONSUL-
TANCY BY MR. HANS J. MILTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY (HOUSING
RESEARCH) IN YOUR DEPARTMENT, REQUESTED IN MY LETTER OF
MAY 16, 1977. MR. MILTON HAS INFORMED ME THAT HE WILL WORK
WITH THE CENTER FOR BUILDING TECHNOLOGY UNTIL FRIDAY,

SEPTEMBER 30, 1977, AND THEN RETURN TO AUSTRALIA BY MID-OCTOBER 1977 IN ORDER TO RESUME HIS DUTIES WITHIN YOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

4. "THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THIS LETTER IS TO EXPLORE WHETHER YOU AND THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICE WOULD MAKE MR. MILTON AVAILABLE FOR AN ADDITIONAL YEAR OF CONSULTANCY TO THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, STARTING FROM MID-NOVEMBER 1977. I UNDERSTAND THAT MR. MILTON HAS INFORMALLY ALERTED YOU TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THIS REQUEST. THE REIMBURSEMENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD BE EFFECTED UNDER THE TERMS AND PRECEDENT ESTABLISHED IN THE EXISTING CONTRACT, INVOLVING PAYMENT BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OF COMPENSATION FOR MR. MILTON'S GROSS SALARY AND ENTITLEMENTS DURING OVERSEAS SERVICE. IN ORDER TO FACILITATE SUCH AN EXTENSION, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HAVE AN AFFIRMATIVE REPLY BY AUGUST 22, 1977.

5. "IT IS WIDELY EXPECTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER WILL ANNOUNCE THE U.S. METRIC BOARD IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BOARD IS CERTAIN TO ACCELERATE THE PACE OF METRICATION IN THE UNITED STATES AND WITH IT THE NEED FOR EXPERT ADVISERS. I HAVE ALREADY WRITTEN TO YOU ABOUT THE EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION THAT HANS MILTON HAS MADE TO THE PLANNING FOR METRIC CONVERSION OF THE U.S. CONSTRUCTION COMMUNITY, AND TO A WIDER AND BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES THAT FACE DESIGNERS, MANUFACTURERS, UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTRACTORS AND STANDARDS BODIES IN THE TRANSITION PERIOD. IN THE STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT SCENE, MR. MILTON'S EXPERTISE IN METRIC UNITS AND DIMENSIONAL COORDINATION HAS BEEN WELCOMED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. IN HIS CONSULTING ACTIVITIES, HE HAS WORKED HARMONIOUSLY WITH AGENCIES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR, WITH PRODUCER AND CONTRACTOR ASSOCIATIONS, AND WITH PROFESSIONAL GROUPS SUCH AS THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING, AND AIR CONDITIONING ENGINEERS, AND THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS. HIS KNOWLEDGE AND COMMITMENT TO ORDERLY METRICATION ARE WIDELY REGARDED AS IMPORTANT TO A SUCCESSFUL METRICATION PROGRAM IN THE HIGHLY FRAGMENTED U.S. DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION COMMUNITY.

6. "WHILE MR. MILTON IS INTERESTED IN FURTHER ASSISTING IN METRIC PLANNING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, HE WISHES TO RETAIN HIS ASSOCIATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

7. "THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS IS PROCESSING THIS

REQUEST THROUGH OUR DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, AND A COPY WILL BE SENT TO THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST.

SINCERELY,

ERNEST AMBLER
ACTING DIRECTOR" CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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